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The Honorable James Clyburn  
Majority Whip, US House of Representatives

The Honorable Henry Waxman  
Chairman Committee on Energy & Commerce

The Honorable Colin Peterson  
Chairman Committee on Agriculture

Dear Whip Clyburn, Chairman Waxman, and Chairman Peterson:

Rheem Manufacturing Company writes to congratulate you on advancing an important piece of legislation affecting energy conservation and jobs. We offer our support for H.R. 4785, the Rural Energy Savings Program Act, and appreciate your exceptional leadership in bringing the bill to the floor of the US House of Representatives.

Rheem, a leading global producer of water heaters, air conditioners, furnaces, pool heaters, and boilers believes that the Rural Energy Savings Program Act, in particular, is critically important because it lowers the cost barriers for consumers to invest in energy efficient solutions which will save them money. Of additional benefit, the program does so in partnership with rural co-ops with a long record of success in this line of business. Rheem is proud to have substantial experience working with co-ops to offer its products to the American public. Presently, we partner with co-ops across the nation, and we work hard to bring them energy-efficient products to meet the needs of their customers. This legislation will further those objectives.

As you know, the availability of low-interest financing through co-ops will allow homeowners and small business to more readily afford energy efficient products. Generally, consumers' heating, cooling and water-heating costs represent the majority of their energy spend. We at Rheem take this seriously and consistently work to bend the cost curve for the public. This bill is an excellent answer to a real challenge for consumers.

The legislation will benefit consumers in the program and our country as a whole. The policy will:

- improve our country's carbon footprint;
- reduce the costs of operation for small business;
- enable consumers to save money;

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- increase access to needed credit; and
- support job creation at a critical point in our economic recovery.

In the words of Congressman Clyburn, “[t]his bill provides for energy conservation, job creation and cost-effective upgrades that will improve consumers’ quality of life. There is such broad support for this initiative because it is a win-win-win proposition.” We could not agree more with him and his co-sponsor, Congressman Whitfield. And, we strongly encourage Congress to move forward and establish the Rural Energy Savings Program.

Sincerely,



Scott Bates  
Corporate Vice President, General Counsel &  
Secretary